The discovery of the remains of Sir John FRANKLIN, so far from allaying anxiety, only tends Gulf. An attempt should be made to reach this by both to create a still more longing desire to know more its eastern and western shores. A thorough examination of the sad details. The remains of himself and of these shores, of the intermediate ice, and of Commit companions have been lying scattered about the tee Bay, would, it appears to me, be much more likely banks of the Great Fish River of Back since the of any of the points to which the public attention is spring of 1850. The story of their death Dr. RAE now directed. learned from the Indians. No white man has been of their last moments.

In all probability the journals of Sir John, or of discoveries, and are, therefore, well worth the atyear be sent to the place to glean particulars and collect journals. The importance of such an expedition is so obvious that it needs only to be suggested, not argued. The story of their fate comes only from the Esquimaux, but it carries with it such an air of probability that no one seems to question its main feature.

Where is Sir John Franklin to be looked for? is a question that has engaged the geographical mind of England and America for the last four or five years. Within that time expedition after expedition and ship after ship have been dispatched in search of the lost explorers, but none of them had brought back any tidings, except that they spent the winter of 1845-'46 at Cape Riley.

In looking at the instructions given and the route taken by these expeditions, one is now struck with the singular fatuity with which Prince Regent's Inlet, leading down into the Gulf of Boothia, where the ships are said to have been lost, seems to have been overlooked, both by those who projected and those who conducted the English searching parties.

When the American expedition of Mr. GRINNELL was decided upon, it was understood that the British Government had abandoned the idea of any further attempt to afford relief to its missing navigators. This expedition was directed to search the shores of Wellington Channel, which up to that time had not been visited.

The American expedition led to the fitting out of several more from England, every one of which, with singular persistency, was directed to Wellington Channel as the principal point of search. PENNY, and Ross, and OMMANEY, and BEECHER, and Austin, and Kellet, every one went there to search in DE HAVEN'S wake. KENNEDY and FOR-SYTH did indeed look into Prince Regent's Inlet; but it was nothing more than a look, for the former went no further than Cresswell Bay and the latter than Fury Beach.

When it was ascertained in this country that the searching vessels of 1850 were all bound to the same place, and that, in the writings which had been published on the other side upon the subject. no importance was attached to Prince Regent's Inlet and the gulf into which it leads as places to be searched, the omission was pointed out by a gentleman of this city. He went at length into a statement of the reasons which induced him to believe that Sir John Franklin had taken that route, and that in the Gulf of Boothia his ships were then to be found, as Sir John would not be able to extricate them. Furthermore, the opinion was advanced, in this remarkable letter, that even the searching party would have to abandon its vessels in this Gulf of Boothia, and take the very route for the south which it appears that Franklin and his party did take.

This letter was written on the 28th of March 1850, by Col. Peter Force, and addressed to Captain Scoresby, the celebrated Arctic voyager. We happen to have a copy of it, and may be excused for making a few extracts which bear most directly upon the subject :

"In your late very valuable publication on the 'Frank lin expedition' you cover the whole ground of research, save one point, and that the very point to which I solicited your attention, the Gulf of Boothia. In my desire to hear your opinion on this suggestion I have too long deferred writing to return my thanks for your kind re-

"It appears that at the time Sir John Franklin sailed. he, in common with many others, was of the same opinion that a passage through Prince Regent's Inlet to Behring's Strait did actually exist, and that, in the event of his not succeeding at the places pointed out in his instructions, it was his determination, expressed prior to his departure from England, to seek a passage there." \* \*

Three routes, one leading through Wellington Channel, were pointed out to Sir John Franklin in his instructions. Failing to penetrate the great Arctic Ocean by any of these-and Mr. FORCE shows that he probably would se fail—he expressed his determination to "descend Regent's Inlet and seek the passage along the coast discovered by Messrs. Dease and Simpson.\* Showing why he had probably so failed, Mr. Force proceeds to show what would be the result of this descent through Prince Regent's Inlet, with the hope of finding a bassage west into the Arctic Ocean from the bassage west into the Arctic Ocean from the ported to have had \$4,000 on deposit, while a number Bulf of Boothia:

"In his search for this passage (which it has been aspertained since does not exist) he would press on to the south, believing every mile he gained in that direction a gain of so much towards the open water of the Akkolee en Barrow's map. His character for energy and perseverance is well known. No obstacle presented by loose re, no matter how heavy, would induce him to relinquish lis enterprise. He knew that Aberdeen Island was earcely a degree south of Lord Mayor's Bay; but he had to knowledge of the continuous land, since then followed ty Rae, from Repulse Bay entirely across to Boothia. Itis exertions to get through to Akkolee would only get lim farther in the ice towards the bottom of the Boothian fulf, from whence he would be unable to retrace his seps, where he, with his ships, if he found a harbor, may be at this time." \*

And here no doubt his ships were left, and prolably here he was at the moment the above paragraph was written.

"The tribes of Esquimaux on the coast west of Remlse Bay, and the tribes on Hudson's Bay, know of the existence of each other, but there is very little intercourse between them. There is some intercourse between the tribes on Hudson's Bay and on Baffin's Bay. By the of the friends of this road, Maj. TRIMBLE has consented actional meeting of parties of these several tribes, the news might be transmitted from one to another; but such a medium of transmission would require much time to view to demonstrate the practicability of building the road at a reasonable cost. The citizens of Charles county cavey to Pond's Bay intelligence of the arrival of Frank- are moving in the matter, whilst a party of twenty gen lis's ships in the Gulf of Boothia. The account itself tlemen of Prince George's have agreed to subscribe the could not be very exact, and would become more confused when translated by one who had but an imperfect

might have been mistaken for one of all the space within Prince Regent's Inlet.

"It would seem from the great drifting of the ice, no ticed by Capt. Sir John Ross, that there must be, at times at least, much open water towards the bottom of the to lead to the discovery of Franklin than an examination

knowledge of their language. Indeed an Esquimaux! drawing of Committee Bay, beginning at Cape Chapman,

"The officer selected for the command of an expedition there to collect their journals and to gather from for this purpose should be provided with materials for the silent memorials around any of the particulars the construction of boats and sledges for the transportation of the crews and necessary provisions, in the not improbable event of being compelled to abandon his ships. | on his visit to Louisville, which has unexpectedly He should also be assured of the co-operation of the some of his officers, may be recovered by visiting Hudson's Bay Company for their relief if necessary, and the spot. They would tell of his progress and his for the assistance which would be required in returning by Repulse Bay or Montreal Island, or by the more southtempt of recovery. We kope a party will next ern course to Wager river, or perhaps Chesterfield Inlet, in which latter direction it is supposed there is much

How poignant now must be the regret that some one of the leading parties was not directed to enter Prince Regent's Inlet and look into the Gulf of Boothia

THE FLOOD.

an old theory newly set out.

FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER. The theory of the flood propounded by a corresponden a late number of the Intelligencer is no novelty, but

Its originator, so far as my reading goes, was a Mr. IRA HILL, in a tractate on the "Antiquities of America." printed in Hagerstown in 1881. Vid. ch. 1; pp. 12, 17. It will there be found in very similar and equally glowing language. His theory did not, like the Newtonian theory of the stars, account for all the phenomena, and was oth-

erwise encumbered with many difficulties. But it must be said, in apology for Mr. Hill, that the science of geology (if it can yet be called a science) was then in a very backward state, and he also suffered much from the effects of whiskey, of which he ultimately died, in the Baltimore almshouse, some ten or fifteen years ago. It ought, however, to be further added to Mr. Hill's credit that, being by profession a teacher, he was desirous of being useful to his younger associates in the almshouse, | columns, forty years ago. whom he instructed in geography by means of maps constructed on the ground, especially a map of the State of Maryland, making a tolerable imitation of nature, so far as the Potomac river was concerned, by means of a pump. But on this map, as in his theory of the flood, the water ran up hill, or from his Chesapeake toward his Alleghanies.

Respectfully, your obedient servant, SCIENTIA. SHEPHERDSTOWN, Va.

P. S. It is instructive to observe how the rills of specu lation in one age become strong enough to turn the mills of a succeeding age.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

UNFORTUNATE CONSEQUENCE OF FRATERNAL DISSENsion.—At Galveston, (Texas,) on the 16th instant, Mrs. Seawell was accidentally shot by one of her sons, who were quarrelling, and one of them holding a pistol and threatening to shoot his brother. Mrs. Seawell was endeavoring to separate them when she received a mortal

At Galveston, on the 16th instant, there were no case of yellow fever, except of persons who had imprudently returned after being away all the summer, and of cases from the shipping. Absentees are advised to keep away till cold weather commences.

The Houston Telegraph states that there had been con-

In Kansas Territory, near Leavensworth, on the 10th instant, an affray took place between two Kentuckians and several Missourians about a claim, in which the Kentuckians were severely and it is thought fatally wounded. The parties concerned in the affair were at once arrested by order of the Governor. GROWING FISH .- A Cleveland (Ohio) paper says tha

one of the most pleasing things exhibited at their late County Fair was a lot of brook trout, artificially bred by Drs. Garlick and Ackley, whose labors in this line we have heretofore noticed. They showed several broods of fish, in different stages of growth, and have demonstrated that it is just as easy to grow fish as it is fowls or any other description of food.

CONDITION OF THE OHIO RIVER .- The river at Wheeling still continues to be just about no river at all, so far as the practical benefits of navigation are concerned. We learn from the Intelligeneer that there are twenty-six inches water in the channel—just enough to make steam-boats look like running, without giving them a fair chance to do so. At Pittsburg it is about in the same condition. In fact the drought throughout the country is unexampled, the consequence of which it is impossible to fore-see, should there be an early winter.

THE APPLE CROP.—The purchasers of fruit for the Eastern markets (says the Rochester Union) are quite active in this vicinity at this time. They are buying, packing, and shipping all the suitable apples that can be obtained at their prices. The price for choice winter apples ranges from one dollar and a quarter to one dollar and a half per barrel, including package. Dealers inform us that the yield this year is good, and the fruit fairer and more free from blomish then for the party ways. fairer and more free from blemish than for some years

EARTHQUAKE IN KEENE .- The town of Keene, in New Hampshire, was disturbed, between ten and eleven o'clock on Tuesday night, by a slight shock of earthquake, an

The failure of the Peoples' Bank at Cincinnati ha created much excitement there and in the neighborhood. P. B. MANCHESTER, the owner of the concern, having made widows and orphans are left penniless. The liabilities are said to be large, and, as his property is heavily mortgaged, it is feared the depositors, who had placed in his care over \$70,000, will not receive over ten cents on

The Lake Superior Journal says: "Eight years ago the first steamboat was put on Lake Superior, at which time we had but one small steamboat plying between the Saut and Mackinaw; now we have eight steamers here in one day.'

CUMBERLAND COAL .- The steamer Baltic, of the Collins line, on her last trip from New York to Liverpool, took as fuel some eight hundred tons of Cumberland coal from

Mrs. FANNIE B. HUNTON, the wife of Robert H. Hunby a melancholy accident. She was sitting alone in her room on Wednesday night, before the fire, when her dress accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught, probably from a spark, and she was soon enveloped in flames. She rushed into the hall, and those near by, alarmed at her cries, came to her accidentally caught. assistance and succeeded in extinguishing the fire, but and \$74,441 for interest on the sixteenth not until she was so dreadfully burnt that all hopes for section fund. not until she was so dreadfully burnt that all hopes for the preservation of her life were over. She lingered un-til Thursday merning, when she expired. Mrs. Hunton was the daughter of the late Gro. Brent, Esq., and was beloved and esteemed by all who knew her.—Alex. Gaz.

THE BALTIMORE AND POTOMAC RAILROAD .- We learn

SCHOOL BOOKS of every description, for sale low by FRANCK TAYLOR, Penn. av between 6th and 42 st.

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1854.

We are gratified to learn from the "Union" that " the health of President PIERCE, which has been feeble for some time, has greatly improved." Judge CAMPBELL, Postmaster General, and Mr. McClelland, Secretary of the Interior, have returned from their brief business visit to the North,

and are now at their posts.

Mr. Secretary GUTHRIE, of the Treasury Depart ment, had the misfortune to meet with an acciden detained him in that city. The subjoined paragraph copied from the "Globe" of last evening, explains the nature of the accident .

"Mr. GUTHERE left here about three weeks age for Louisville, Kentucky, expecting to be absent only about ten days, or two weeks at furthest. We learn that on his way—we did not learn where—a wheel of a car in which he was a passenger broke, and one side of the car was dragged about a mile before the engineer was aware of it and stopped the train. None of the passengers were thought to be expected in the control of the passengers were thought to be seriously injured, and nothing about the ac-cident was published. When Mr. Guthrie arrived at Louisville it was found that he was a good deal bruised, had considerable fever, and his physician advised him to go to bed and stay there for a week or more. A letter from Louisville states that he had been in bed eight days on the 22d instant, and that his physician thinks it pru-dent for him not to leave there in less than eight days from that time. He is, therefore, not expected here un til the last of next week."

The reader who commences cannot fail to go through the manly and vigorous defence of the military character and conduct of Gen. HARRI-SON, made by Col. CHARLES S. TODD, of Kentucky, who himself shared many of the toils and perils of the campaigns to which he refers, and who speaks from personal observation of some of the promine events of the arduous campaigns in the Northwest. We give space to the review of Col. Todd with great-pleasure, having read it with an interest second only to that felt when the incidents referred to were first transmitted to the public through our

POLITICS IN NEW YORK.

The Southern Democratic presses have lately been opening their eyes to the true state of affairs among their Democratic brethren of the North: but we doubt whether one of them will ever give its readers such a paragraph as that which follows from the Buffalo "Republic." That paper brings to mind the fact that none of the so-called (Soft) Democratic Conventions in the State of New York have endorsed the action of Congress in repealing the Missouri Compromise. On the contrary, they charge that the State Convention misrepresented their sentiments in its second resolution, which, it will be remembered, had two phases-one of disapproval of the Nebraska act and one of acquiescence in that measure. The Albany Argus thus. presents the matter in bold relief:

THE POLYWOG PLATFORM REPUDIATED .- We invite th attention of Southern supporters of the Administration, who are congratulating themselves on the possibility of making National Democrats out of the Softs in this State. to the following from the Buffalo Republic of the 28 siderable increase in the mortality from yellow fever since the 10th. There were four interments on the 11th, four on the 12th, and three on the 10th. will be remembered that what the Republic calls " Demicratic" is generally called " Soft" by other papers:

"We observe that the Congressional Conventions of the Democracy generally speak in unequivocal terms of disapprobation of the repeal of the Missouri restriction. In this respect the example of the State Convention has not been followed. Indeed, we have yet to learn of the first Democratic Convention that has congratulated the country on the 'results likely to flow' from the passage of Mr. Douglas's bill. Looking at the elections which have recently been held, the 'results' are not of a character

mocracy and contribute to the 'peace of the Union.'
"To those Democrats who felt that their sentiments had been misrepresented in the State Convention, by the adoption of the second resolution, it is a most gratifying indication that the local conventions of those sterling Democratic counties, Onondaga, St. Lawrence, Herkimer, Oneida, Orange, and Steuben, use no dainty phrases in speaking of the perfidious act, which opened territory consecrated to freedom to the uses of the slave power, but give utterance to the feelings of the people in language which cannot be misconstrued."

Will our Southern friends note the last paragraph? If its paternity were not unquestionably Democratic, would they not set it down as unadulterated Abolitionism?

The Albany Argus is consistent in its opposition to every movement having in view a fusion of the "Hards" and "Softs" of New York. It recurs to the subject in noticing the nominations and proceedings of the Hards of Erie county, and says that "these results put an end to the rumors, alike disoccurrence very unusual among the granite hills of New England. The shock was quite perceptible, but we do not learn that any injury resulted from it. the Softs on the local tickets." And, again, in referring to a nomination in another county by the "Soft" branch of the Democracy, the Argus infers that the movement "is designed to draw out and expose the weakness of the Administration faction and to aid the Whigs."

If the Whig party itself was not in a somewhat distracted condition, something good might flow from these bitter feuds of the Democracy. Another year or two, it is to be hoped, will bring order out of the present chaos, and evolve the true national sentiment of the people of New York. It is per- The opposition majority in the House is quite large. In haps fortunate that the political caldron has bubbled so far in advance of the Presidential election.

ALABAMA FINANCES .- We find in the Montgomery Journal the reports of the Comptroller and majorities for the law and twenty-seven against it. the Treasurer of Alabama, giving an account of the receipts and disbursements of the State Treasury for the year ending 30th September, 1854.

The report of the Comptroller shows the total receipts to be \$1,861,125, in which is included the balance from the prior year of \$1,236,069. The receipts from the tax assessments of 1853 were \$549,890; from common school fund \$62,026.

The report of the Treasurer shows a balance in the Treasury of \$820,276.

THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.-The British Government is already making arrangements for the next campaign. The Dublin Daily Express says that in March the 18th, the 51st, the 54th, the 56th, the 66th, the 72d, and the 80th, the 82d, the 90th, and the 94th regiments will be in England, and prepared to proceed to the Baltic. It would thus appear that a long struggle is anticipated. The thus appear that a long struggle is anticipated. The thus appear that a long struggle is anticipated. The cost in the end will be immense, and unless the ther protection of an interest abundantly able to the care of itself; and your petitioners represent that an immediate repeal of the existing burdensome National Coal mediate repeal of the existing burdensome National Coal Tax would be hailed with satisfaction by every class of people of England and France.

THE CANVASS IN ILLINOIS.

The leaders of the antagonist parties in Illinois will no doubt welcone the arrival of the day (the 7th of November) which is to decide the present political contest in tlat State. As the time draws near the activity of the disputants is increased. Among the most disinguished debaters on one side are Senators SHIELD and DOUGLAS, and on the other Ex-Senator BRESE, Ex-Representative LIN-COLN, and Judge TRIMBULL. The following paragraph, copied from he Chicago Times of the 20th instant, will give the reader but a faint idea of the fatigues of the canyss:

"Judge DougLAS sturned to Chicago last evening. He was met at the careby a committee appointed for that purpose by the Cook Gunty Convention, and escorted to his rooms at the Tremnt House. He left this city four weeks ago, and since ten has made over twenty speeches at as many different places, and has travelled on his route more than a thusand miles. We regret to say that his health, in conequence of the great physical ex-ertion he has made, is not so good as it was. He returns as undaunted in spiri and buoyant in hope as a man confident of the rectitde of his cause can only be. A few days' rest will, w hope, restore him to his wonted

Senator Shields iddressed an assemblage of his constituents at Sprigfield on the 16th instant. In the beginning of hi speech, as we learn from the "State Register," he 'adverted to the beneficial effect of Congressionl legislation during the last few years upon the prosperity of Illinois-of the immense grants of and she had received for railroads, the swamp ands given her, the appropriations made for the improvement of Illinois river, &c. But the Nebraska excitement, he said, had now swallowed up every other, and upon this question he gave his views at lengt! He reminded his auditory that-

"There was one great menentous fact which every man of common sense should understand and fully appreciate-that there is a moral division of this great country, a moral line which separates it into two almost equal parts. On one side of this line slavery is interwoven with the interests, envictions, and prejudices of the people; on the other the general convictions and prejudices of the people re hostile to slavery. The highest perfection of satesmanship, the strenuous efforts of the wise and goodnave been used to prevent this moral division from becoming a deep incurable political division. This was the truggle of 1850. The nation then found itself in possession of an immense accession of territory, won in a successful war. It was gained by a common effort, and wasemphatically, constitutionally, and by every human right the common property of the

He afterwards explained the doctrine of non-intervention, as recently advanced, and maintained that the principle was right every where.

"It allowed the people (he said) to fix their own condition, manage their own affairs, and work out their own happiness in their own way. It gave equal chances to equal States in the settlement and government of common territory. Kansas and Nebraska were free now, and the people there would keep them free. The establishment of slavery in these Territories was not only improbable, but impossible, and it was always wiser and better to let people work out a great good for themselves than have it forced upon them by others; and this was the way in which freemen always do what is great and good, by their own free and voluntary act. This principle of non-intervention would not only keep Kansas and Nebraska what they are now-free-but would by its full and hir operation, if we acquire the Continent to the Istlanus of Darien, work with such nowerful force and effect that no man would ever see another slave Territory on this Continent.

"After saying much more on this head, Gen. SHIELDS alluded to the danger of sectional organizations, and or arraying one section of the Union in a general sentiment of hostility against the other. The Nebraska question, he said, would soon settle itself, as, in the midst of this angry discussion, Kansas would present herself with a free constitution and be admitted as free member of the Confederacy."

These views, it will be perceived, are presented with the wonted urbanity and frankness of the dislead them to hope that the "surrender of a formidable function by Congress' will prove beneficial to the Dedefend the Nebraska act at the North and West, it will be seen that large concessions had to be made to the anti-slavery sentiment of the people addressed. The South is left to take what consolation it can from the assurance that not only Kansas and Nebraska are to be free States, by virtue of the "principle of non-intervention," but that the legitimate consequence of this policy will be to prevent any other Slave Territory on this Continent, even to the Isthmus of Darien!

## PENNSYLVANIA.

The official returns of the late election show the

OL	owing results:
	FOR GOVERNOR.  James Pollock, (Whig)
	Pollock's majority 87,007
おける 単変に	JUDGE OF SUPREME COURT.  J. S. Black, (Dem.)
	CANAL COMMISSIONER.
	Henry S. Mott, (Dem.)274,074 George Darsie, (Whig)83,381
	Mott's majority

The Democratic "Union" says that "the political complexion of the next Legislature we do not think can be determined until after the members assemble at Harrisburg. There appears to be an opposition majority in the House and on joint ballot; but whether it will be a reliable majority on all questions remains to be ascertained." the Senate parties are nearly tied.

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW For the law 158,842, against it 163,510; majority against the measure, 5,168. Thirty-six counties gave

The nominations for Congress in New Jersey being now complete, we subjoin a list of them:

Dist.	Whig and Anti-Nebraska	. Democrat.
1	I. D. Clawson	T. W. Mulford.
2	G. R. Robbins	N. S. Rue.
3	James S. Bishop	Samuel Lilly.
	P. C. Osborne	
5	A. C. M. Penningto	nJohn S. Darcy.
	election will take pla	ce on the 7th of N

PROPOSED REPEAL OF DUTY ON FOREIGN COAL .-- A petition to Congress for the repeal of the duty on foreign coal has been placed in the Boston Merchants' Exchange, and has already received a large number of signatures. The following is the language of the petition, addressed to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States :

"The undersigned, people of the United States and residents of Boston, in the State of Massachusetts, respectfully petition your honorable bodies to repeal all duties now existing by law upon the introduction of foreign

THE HARPER'S FERRY LAW-SUIT.

title, as related by the Hon. JAMES M. MASON:

"This Harper's Ferry tract was included in the large terri

The decision at Staunton of the suit of Mesers. Brown, BECKHAM & Co. against Col. HUGER, representing the paper. A more full reference to it may not be without ton Spectator, and others by a gentleman who was preent and heard the very able arguments on the occasion. The claim, it will be recollected, was set up by the laintiffs under a Virginia land warrant to cover vacant and. This warrant was laid upon a portion of the land next to the rivers Potomac and Shenandoah, at Harper's erry, occupied by the United States for a national armory. The following is the history of the Government's

Fins Harper's Ferry tract was included in the large (erri-torial grant made by the Crown of Great Britain to Lord Fairfax some one hundred and twenty years ago, and known as the 'North Neck.' In the year 1751 this tract of land was granted to Robert Harper by a patent issued from the pro-prietary office of Lord Fairfax, on condition that he should ay to said Fairfax, 'at the feast of St. Michael the Archancel, one shilling sterling as quit rent. Upon this land Harper esided from 1751 until his death in October, 1782; and by his will be devised this and an adjoining tract to his nephet Griffith and his niece Sarah Harper, who had intermarrie with John Wager, sen.—the lower part of the tract being de-vised to the niece. The will of Harper, however, only convised to the niece. The will of Harper, however, only conveyed to Wager and wife a life estate in the land, with authority to give it by will to such one of their sons as they may elect. In 1796 Gen. Washington purchased the land for the use of the United States from John Wager, sen.; his only son, John Wager, jr. and his two daughters uniting with him in the deed to the Government, his wife Sarah Harper being dead. The counsel stated that from a careful and thorough examination of the deed he was satisfied that it had been wholly drawn by Gen. Washington; that it was characterized by the clear strong practical common sense of the 'Father of his Country' rather than by the technical precision of the legal profession. This conveyance does not describe the land by metes and bounds, but as extending from river to river. The United States take the ground that as the original patent called for corners, either on or in the river, they are not bound to run from corner to corner by straight lines, but may follow run from corner to corner by straight lines, but may follow the meanders of the stream, and thus include all the land that it was evidently the design of the original patentee to take up all the land included between the Shenandoah and Potomac at this point, as it was much more valuable for it water-power and privileges than for the purpose of cultiva-

Upon the state of facts as presented by documentary evidence and the parol testimony of Messrs. R. H. Williamson ohn Pitcher, and others familiar with the state of affairs at Harper's Ferry for nearly fifty years, Mr. MILLER, one of the United States counsel, moved the Court (Judge John W. BROCKENBROUGH presiding) to instruct the jury to consider the water-courses as Mr. Harper's boundary on the north and east. Mesers. STUART and MICHIE, counsel for will declare the seizure and liberation of the slaves, under the claimants, opposed this instruction, and argued the case | the circumstances, to be illegal. with the closeness of research and ability for which they are distinguished. They were followed by Mr. Mason in a speech of great power, occupying more than four hours, n which he proved himself to be perfectly familiar with all the facts, and added greatly to his reputation as a close reasoner from the law and facts. Mr. Mason refied much upon the old settlement law of Virginia, under which Mr. Harper had held undisputed possession for thirty years and paid the taxes upon the land. The Government had acquired all the rights of Mr. Harper and his heirs, and had held undisputed possession for

fifty-eight years, until 1852, when the suit was brought. Judge BROCKENBROUH gave a long and learned opinion analyzing the facts with great clearness, and granting the instruction prayed for ; the counsel for the claimants made the usual exceptions, with a view to an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States; and the jury. thus instructed, had no difficulty in finding a verdict for the defendant without leaving their box.

The case excited an unusual degree of attention; and the settlement of it is most important to the United States and to the public, as establishing a principle and precedent for future cases.

## INDIAN MASSACRE IN OREGON.

Late San Francisco papers contain some of the particulars of the massacre of a party of emigrants by Indians in Oregon, which we abridge:

On the morning of the 22d of August last a party of eighteen men left Fort Boise for the purpose of rescuing three ladies and a number of children who were suppos-ed to be in the hands of a party of Winnass Indians, (one of the small tribes of Saake Indians who live on Boise river,) who attacked Mr. Alexander Ward's train from Missouri, on the 20th of August, twenty-five miles above Fort Boise, on the south side of Boise river. This party, on arriving at the place where the first attack was made, found the bodies of Alex. Ward and his eldest son Robert, German, name unknown. From the statement of the surviving boy, Newton Ward, it would appear that no efstance was offered by any of the party, except Dr. Adams and Mulligan, who fought bravely. Following the trail, in about three hundred yards, the body of young Amon was found, a lad of seventeen years of age. He was one of the seven who came to the rescue on the day of the attack and fought with great valor. About one hundred yards further on the body of Miss Ward was found, having been shot through the head with a musket ball. Her person was much bruised, and her hands show-ed signs of her having fought most desperately. Within a few rods of this spot a wagon had been burnt and the bodies of two dogs found crisped up. About fifty yards on in the brush three more wagons were burnt. The trail was followed up and in about six hundred yards the body of Mrs. White was found. The trail was followed for half a mile through a dense thicket of brush and under-growth when the fifth wagon was found. In about thirty yards further was the river, where the body of Mrs. Ward and three children were found. There were still a lad and five children missing. A diligent search was made for their bodies without success.

From the statement of Mr. Masterson, who is a brothe of Mrs. Ward and Mrs. White, it appears that the booty that the Indians carried off consisted of forty-one head of cattle, five horses, and about \$2,000 or \$3,000 in

money, besides guns, pistols, &c.

The party of seven, finding the Indians greatly superior in number, were obliged to abandon the pursuit. William Yantis, on returning to the scene of the first attack, discovered Newton Ward, a lad of about thirteen years of age, the only survivor of the party, severely wounded, and brought him off in safety.

Major Raynes, (commander at Fort Dallas,) immediate-

ly upon the reception of the news, sent out about thirty regulars and the same number of volunteers, all mounted, and under the command of Major Haller.

This massacre has created great excitement in Oregon, and the acting Governor has issued a proclamation, calling for two companies of volunteers, of sixty men each, to arm, equip, and mount themselves, to chastise the savages. The two companies were quickly raised and ready

or action.

The Oregonian learns by immigrants just in from the claims that a party of five hundred Indians, well armed and mounted, had collected near the immigrant road and proclaimed their intention of war against all whites who might fall in their way. We may reasonably expect to learn of some hard fighting between Major Haller's com-

SAD CALAMITY .- The following letter, copied from the Augusta Sentinel, gives the particulars of a sad calamity which was alluded to in our paper of yesterday: MARION, (ALA.) OCT. 16, 1854.

I am sorry to inform you of a very sad occurrence which took place here last Sunday night, about twelve o'clock; that is, the burning down of Howard College. There were sleeping at the time, in the third and fourth stories of the building, about twenty-six or twenty-eight young men and two negro men, all of whom were required to jump from the windows, a distance of from thirty to forty feet, to the ground below, and, horrible to tell, twenty-two of the number were mangled in a come in from a visit to them with my very heart sick. Some of the boys are burnt very badly, in addition to other injuries. Our town is in mourning, and looks gloomy enough. I learned a few moments since that one of the black men was dead; he rushed down through the of the black men was dend; he rushed down are expect-flames to the door. Two or three of the boys are expected to die; the rest will probably recover. There is, ever, no knowing exactly the extent of their injuries. trust all things are better than we now think. lege building, with every thing in it, is in ruins. Nothing was saved, as I understand.

Another Collision at Sea.—The steamer Sands" arrived at Portland on the 24th instant. She left entirely.

Wheat is firm. Red sold to-day at \$1.75 a \$1.85;

Wheat is firm. Red sold to-day at \$1.75 a \$1.85; now existing by law upon the introduction of foreign coals.

"Recent action of the most prominent coal operators in the country has demonstrated the impropriety of further protection of an interest abundantly able to take care of itself; and your petitioners represent that an immediate repeal of the existing burdensome National Coal Tax would be hailed with satisfaction by every class of the community not directly interested in speculative combination to raise the price of coal."

Liverpool on the 7th, and immediately after entering the channel she came in collision with the Cunard steamer white do., good to prime \$1.80 a \$1.90; choise do. \$1.95; which caused so much damage to the upper works, spars, and rigging of the Kanark as to compel her to put back to Liverpool. The Sarah Sands received injury in her cutwater, spars, and rigging. At the time of this accident both ships were in the act of discharging the pilots, and the collision occurred by the Kanark swinging round while lying to.

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THE LEMMON SLAVE CASE.

Almost every reader recollects the case of JONATHAN LEMMON, of Virginia, who, about two years ago, took a United States, has already been briefly alluded to in this family of slaves with him to New York, for the purpose of embarking with them for Texas, where he intended to reerest. Some of the facts are furnished by the Staun- side. Information of the presence of Lemmon in the city of New York with his slaves was given by one Louis Napoleon, a colored man, and the slaves were taken before Judge Paine, of the Superior Court, on a writ of habeas corpus. The slaves were declared to be free under a statute of the State, and were sent off to Canada, under the direction of the "philanthropists." Some citizens of New York, however, made up the value of the slaves to Mr. Lemmon, and he returned to Virginia.

This created much excitement in the State of Virginia, as Mr. Lemmon had not attempted to introduce slaves into New York, but was a mere traveller through it ! The Legislature authorized the Governor to institute proper proceedings on an appeal from Judge Paine's decision. and the Attorney General was sent on to argue the case, and to carry it through the several Courts, up to the Supreme Court of the United States, if necessary.

"In accordance with these resolutions, (says the Even-ing Post,) the State of Virginia proceeded with the case. A writ of certiorari was sued out, and the case was carried from the Superior to the Supreme Court. The question then arose as to whether the appellant must give security for costs. Decision that he must. Appeal to General Term and decision affirmed. The official bond of the State of Virginia sent on as security for the costs. The security objected to and rejected by the Court because given by

"This brings us up to the present time. In the place

of the rejected security a new bond has been given by the attorneys of Mr. Lemmon."

"The case will probably come on for argument before the General Term of the Supreme Court next November. Mr. Lapaugh, for the appellant, (nominally Mr. Lemmon, actually the State of Virginia,) will be assisted by the Attorney General of Virginia. Mr. Culver, we understand, will probably be assisted by Ogden Hoffman, Esq., Attorney General of this State. Whichever way the case is decided, it will be carried up to the Court of Appeals, and without doubt eventually to the Supreme

the United States.
"We understand that the State of Virginia, if successful, intends applying to the Legislature of this State to be reimbursed for their expenses. If unsuccessful, then they will attempt the passage of a special act through Congress to be paid out of the National Treasury."

The decision in this case will be looked for with much interest. Some gentlemen learned in the law feel very sanguine that the Supreme Court of the United States

LAKE MONSTER .- A movement in the waters of our bay one day last week created quite an excitement for the time being among those who witnessed it. We are told by an eye-witness that a monster of serpentine form, from thirty to forty feet in length, was distinctly seen to move about in the water with an agility equal to that of the most expert of the finny tribe. We are also told that several of our fishermen have long been impressed with the idea, from actual observation, of the existence of some imaginary monster in the waters of the lake. On one oc-casion, at a distance of only about ten rods, his snakeship was seen exhibiting a length of over fifty feet and a body of more than a foot through. They represent the unknown as capable of great rapidity of movement under water, having on more than one occasion suddenly disap-peared and in an almost incredibly short time risen to the surface of the water from a quarter to half a mile distant. We understand Barnum has been consulted and offers a reward of ten dollars a foot in length over ten feet for its capture, dead or alive.—Dunkirk Journal.

The City Courts of New York are doing a large business in the naturalization line, and so will continue to do until within ten days of the election. The law is, that in order to vote at an ensuing election papers must not be taken out within that period. Hence, as the time now is short, the politicians are active drumming up the forces. The "Know-Nothing" movement has had the effect to increase the application for naturalization papers much beyond the ordinary number. Tammany is doing a big business in this way, and so are the other party organizations. Papers are furnished to voters by this means without costing them a copper.—Baltimore American.

## Telegraphic Correspondence.

LATE FROM CALIFORNIA.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 27 .- The steamers George Law and Star of the West arrived here to-day, bringing dates from California to the 30th September, and nearly two million dollars in gold. The steamer Star of the West Samuel Mulligan, Charles Adams, Wm. Babcock, and a connected with the Cortez, which left San Francisco on the afternoon of the 30th, bringing five hundred and fifty

News of a Missing Ship. NEW YORK, OCTOBER 27 .- The British steamship Peytona, arrived at San Francisco from the Sandwich Islands, brought intelligence of the long-missing Arctic ship Enterprise, which arrived at port Clarenel on the 21st August. She lost only three men during the whole time. The Enterprise went into the Arctic seas in the summer of 1851, and passed through Prince of Wales Strait, but, finding the ice impassable, passed the winter of 1851-'2 in latitude 71° 35' north, longitude 170° 35' west. After making every exertion to accomplish the object of her voyage she passed the winter of 1852-'8 in Wollaston bay, in latitude 69° north, lon. 105° 30' west. The winter of 1853-'4 found her in Camden bay, latitude 78° north, and longitude 145° 30' west. The ice released the ves-

Yellow Fever at Charleston. CHARLESTON, Oct. 26 .- There were seven deaths from yellow fever here yesterday.

CHARLESTON, Oct. 25.—The deaths during the week were 56, including 31 by fever.

sel on the 30th of last July.

Railroad Collision and Loss of Life. BRANTFORD, (C. W.) Oct. 27 .- A serious collision occurred on the Great Western railroad, twenty miles west of Chatham, this morning. Several persons, mostly emi-

New York Market. New York, Oct. 27 .- State and Ohio flour have de-

clined 12½ cents. Ohio sells at \$9 a \$9.37å, and good mixed to straight Baltimore, Alexandria, &c. at \$9.25 a \$9.75. Wheat is scarce, with sales of Genesse white at \$2.45 a \$2.50. Corn, Western mixed, 811 a \$2. Provisions are unchanged. Explosion of a Fictitious Bank.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27 .- A fictitious bank, pretending to

have an agency in William street, in this city, and got up by Holdenge Dewey, Leonard Westbrook, Alfred Hyde, and another, has exploded. Its bills are called the Mer-chants' Exchange Bank and Bank of Auscostis, of the District of Columbia, and were circulated principally at the South and West. The latter are signed F. E. Cur-tis, Cashier, and H. Dewey, President. The contents of the office here have been seized by the police. Westbrook was arrested, and warrants issued for the others. The paper is utterly worthless.

Great Fall in Beef Cattle.

HAVRE DE GRACE, OCT. 26 .- A decided fall took place in beef cattle, at Port Deposite, this morning. About half-past nine o'clock a large drove of them was being driven across the Port Deposite bridge, and when they were about midway two spans of the bridge gave way from the excessive weight, and precipitated all the animals into the Susquehannah river, a distance of some forty feet. The crash was tremendous and fearful, and the fall bridge at the time it fell. Most of them fell into the river. where they swam and floundered about in the water, making their way mostly to either of the shores. Eighteen had their legs broken, but none were killed.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, OCTOBER 27 .- Breadstuffs continue ex-BALTIMORR, OCTOBER 27.—Breadstuffs continue extremely scarce, flour especially, and prices have further advanced. Small sales to-day of Howard street brands at \$8.87, and City Mills at \$8.62. Rye flour \$7.871. Commeal \$4.50 a \$4.622. The receipts of flour at present and during the entire fall have not been by two-thirds as much as they were up to this time last year. The millers complain greatly of the lowness of the streams; some have been obliged to suspend operations entirely.

\* Parliament Papers, 13th April, 1848, No. 264, p. 24.